

REMARKS

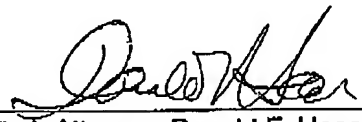
This application, from its filing date, has had claims to alkyl ether sulfate compositions. These claims were examined and allowed by the Examiner in the office action of April 23, 2004. Subsequent to that time, the Applicants filed the Request for Continued Examination in order to cite a newly uncovered reference. On October 14, 2004, the Applicants submitted a petition to amend the specification and also to amend the claims by canceling claims 1-53 and leaving only claim 54. That amendment of the claims was a mistake. It was meant to be carried out in another divisional application, Serial No. 10/817,640.

It appears that the Examiner may have recognized this mistake already because the recent restriction requirement related to a choice of claims 1-4 and 18-38 or claims 5-17 and 39-41, or claims 42-54. At any rate, the Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments are necessary under the current rules. The Examiner is requested to maintain the amendment of the specification to incorporate a reference to the prior application in the specification.

Respectfully submitted,

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